

Scarab Paperweight

Description:

Children will learn about Egyptian culture while creating a scarab paperweight.

Materials:

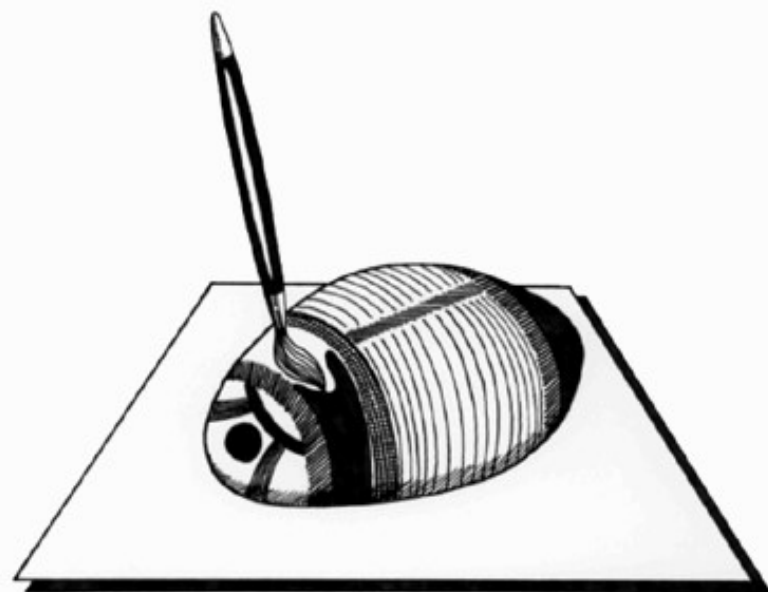
rocks, paint, small paintbrushes or cotton swabs, water, containers, black markers

Optional: pictures of scarabs

Standards: 4

Concepts: Symbols, form, and balance

Level: Pre K-3



Procedure:

Your child will learn about Egyptian art and culture in this fun activity. If possible, find pictures of Egyptian scarabs in books or on the Internet. (See Resources below.) A scarab is an ancient Egyptian beetle design symbolizing eternal life. In ancient times, scarabs were made from clay or carved from semiprecious stones in colors ranging from gold to turquoise blue. Your child can create a scarab paperweight by painting or drawing patterns on a rock.

Extension:

Introduce your child to Egyptian culture by way of books and Web sites like those listed under Resources.

Just for Kids:

For the ancient Egyptians the scarab beetle design symbolized everlasting life. In ancient times, scarabs were made of clay or carved from semiprecious stones. You can make a scarab paperweight using rocks and paint. Look at pictures of scarabs to get some ideas. Carry your scarab with you for good luck, or make a number of them and give them to family and friends.

Resources:

Web:

Life in Ancient Egypt: www.clpgh.org

Rosetta Stone: www.clemusart.com/archive/pharaoh/rosetta/index.html

Books:

Ancient Egypt by Andrew Haslam

Pyramids! by Avery Hart and Paul Mantell

Ancient Egypt (a fact-filled coloring book) by Peter der Manuelian